

What is Hospitals for a Healthy Environment?

Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E) is a voluntary program to help health care facilities reduce the amount and toxicity of wastes they generate.

H2E is designed to help hospitals take a leadership role in reducing their environmental impact while saving money and reducing liabilities.

H2E is sponsored by the American Hospital Association, American Nurses Association, Health Care Without Harm, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In 2003, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) joined H2E as a Champion. H2E Champions are organizations that assist health care facilities in meeting national H2E goals and improving their environmental performance.

How to Get Involved

→ Contact DEQ:

As an H2E Champion, DEQ provides outreach, information, and technical support for health care facilities. For more information, contact:

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→ Visit DEQ's H2E Web Page:

www.deq.idaho.gov/multimedia_assistance/hospitals/h2e.cfm

→ Visit the H2E Web Site:

Learn more about the wealth of information and services available to health care facilities at
www.h2e-online.org



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Waste Management in Idaho

Championing



in Idaho



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Environmental Quality**
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Benefits of Partnering in H2E

While providing high quality patient care, health care facilities use a wide variety of toxic products and generate large volumes of waste. Participating in H2E can help your hospital:

✓ **Save money and reduce liability.**

Hospitals across the country have seen a significant increase in waste management costs over the past several years. Reducing waste can lead to significant cost savings. Eliminating use of toxic materials also can help reduce liability.

✓ **Gain community and national recognition.**

Hospitals that become H2E partners receive public recognition for participating and may be eligible for annual awards for their achievements. Award-winning hospitals will be recognized at one of many public forums and listed on the H2E Web site.

✓ **Receive technical assistance.**

Available resources include assistance through the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), tools designed to help facilities achieve H2E goals, access to a listserv that provides a forum for health care professionals to exchange information, and free monthly teleconferences for H2E members.

H2E Goals:

- Eliminate the use of mercury in health care;
- Identify and eliminate other persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals in the health care system; and
- Reduce overall hospital waste and waste disposal costs through prevention, reuse, and recycling.

DEQ:

Your Idaho H2E Champion

As an H2E Champion, DEQ can assist health care organizations in Idaho achieve H2E goals by:

- Conducting site visits;
- Providing technical support;
- Sharing best practices;
- Providing model plans for total waste management;
- Sharing resource directories;
- Developing case studies;
- Presenting in meetings and conferences; and
- Hosting monthly H2E teleconferences (currently available in Boise).

2006 H2E Teleconference Calendar

H2E conducts free teleconferences for H2E Partners and Champions. Presenters are experts in the many environmental challenges facing today's health care facilities.

Jan 06	Introduction to Green Building
Jan 13	Strategies for Environmental Success
Feb 03	Business Case for Green Healthcare Facilities
Feb 17	Waste Worker Safety
Mar 03	Energy Conservation
Mar 10	Sterilization and High Level Disinfection Processes
Apr 07	Water Conservation
Apr 14	Red Bag Reduction 101
May 05	Building Materials and Human Health
May 12	Pharmaceutical Waste Management
Jun 02	Circadian Rhythm
Jun 09	How to Comply with EPA Regulations
Jul 07	Tracking Your Green Building Progress
Jul 14	Universal Wastes
Aug 04	Site Selection and Master Planning
Aug 11	Recycling 101
Sept 01	Integrating Operations into Design
Sept 08	Toxicity Reduction in Laboratories
Oct 06	Healthy Food Choices and Composting
Oct 13	Green Cleaning
Nov 01	Cogeneration and Combined Heat and Power
Nov 17	Alternative Treatment Technologies for RMW
Dec 01	Healing Gardens
Dec 08	H2E Awards
Dec 15	Intro to H2E and Data Collection